Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Encounter Manual

October 2006

Distribution/Revision of the Encounter Manual

One copy of this manual and any subsequent revisions will be provided to each contractor by the AHCCCS Encounter Unit, Division of Health Care Management. The contractor is responsible for providing copies of this manual and any revisions to its staff, Third Party Administrators (TPAs), and other interested parties. Revisions and updates to the manual will be forwarded to the contractor as necessary. Due to the costs of reproduction and distribution, additional copies will be furnished at a cost of \$75.00. The manual may be downloaded at no charge from the AHCCCS Internet web page at www.azahcccs.gov.

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DEFINITIONS

Action Modes The four actions available to contractors to resolve

pended encounter errors. The action modes are (C) correct, (A) approve, (D) delete, or (N) no change.

AHCCCS Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

AHCCCSA Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Administration

CMS The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, an

organization within the Department of Health and Human Services, which has oversight responsibilities for the AHCCCS program, including encounter

reporting.

Control Reference

Number (CRN)

A unique 14-digit number assigned to each encounter record by AHCCCSA for tracking purposes. The first five numbers of the CRN contains the Julian date, which reflects the date of receipt of the new encounter files that contained the encounter record.

Contractor A managed care organization or entity, agreeing

through a direct contract relationship with AHCCCSA to

provide services to AHCCCS members.

Covered Services Health care services to be delivered by a Contractor as

defined by AHCCCSA statute and rules.

Encounter A record of a medically related service rendered by a

registered AHCCCS provider to an AHCCCS member enrolled with a capitated contractor on the date of

service.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Encounter Edits and Audits

AHCCCSA system for processing checks that evaluates submitted encounter data for syntax, data quality problems, and duplicate records.

Encounter Form Type

The types of encounter records are:

- Professional services are reported with an 837P (Form A);
- Dental services are reported with an 837D (Form D);
- Pharmacy services are reported with a NCPD [NCPDP transaction] (Form C); and
- Institutional services are reported with an 837I (Form B). Institutional encounters are further subdivided into three additional form types: form type I for inpatient hospital services; form type O for outpatient hospital services; and form type L for long-term care facility services.

Encounter Manual

Reference guide for contractors that are required to submit encounter data to AHCCCSA.

Encounter Processing

The processing of encounter data performed by AHCCCSA that includes receipt of New Day and Pended Encounter Correction files, encounter processing disposition, and distribution of Status and Pend Correction files and reports to Contractors.

Julian Date

A five-digit representation of a date, where the first two digits describe the year and the next three digits reflect the number of days since the beginning of the calendar year. For example, a date of January 20, 2005 is expressed in Julian date format as 05020. The first five digits of an AHCCCSA CRN comprise the Julian date that the encounter record was received.

Member

An eligible person who enrolls in the AHCCCS system.

DEFINITIONS (Continued)

New Day Encounter File An encounter file submitted by a contractor to

AHCCCSA containing encounter records that have

not previously been submitted.

Pended Encounter Correction File

An encounter file submitted by a contractor to AHCCCSA containing encounter records that had previously been submitted and had failed the edit

and audit process.

Pended Encounter/
Corrective Action Notice

Used by contractors to document pended encounter problems that require research by AHCCCSA staff.

Pended Encounter File An encounter file produced by AHCCCSA for

contractors containing encounter records that have

failed AHCCCSA's edit and audit process.

Provider Files Files produced by AHCCCSA for contractors with

information regarding all AHCCCS registered

providers.

Reference Files Files produced by AHCCCSA for contractors with

information regarding service coverage and fee-for-

service payment rates.

Status File A 277U file produced by AHCCCSA that includes all

finalized encounter records, as well as all pended encounter records, following encounter processing.

Transmission Submitter

Number (TSN)

A number assigned by AHCCCSA for each

submitter of encounter data. Contractors must have one TSN and may have multiple TSNs. Multiple TSNs may be used to identify different lines of business, benefit packages, or subcontracts.